

Activity report of the Bethany Lutheran Church

June 25, 2020

Dear brothers in Christ, I hope you are well during this pandemic caused by COVID-19. Thank God all our brothers in the church are well.

Most of the members of our congregation are from the group called "vulnerable", that is, the elderly and children. The City government has recommended not having services in all congregations until the situation is better. As a congregation we have agreed to wait for a while until the municipality notifies us that we can now meet without running the risk of contagion, taking care of our brothers.



Photographs of
members of the
congregation.

Every Saturday (before the pandemic), Deaconess Yolanda shares a Bible class with the children of the congregation and children from the neighborhood. At the end of the class the children receive a meal. Many of these children arrive without breakfast, since they are poor.



Children that every Saturday the deaconess Yolanda teaches Bible stories and gives food.

We were delivering some toothbrushes along with toothpastes that we received from KIMA. The children received them with pleasure and thanks.



Children getting their brush and toothpaste, donated by KIMA and delivered by Yolanda.

Due to the pandemic we have not been able to continue this activity on Saturdays, with the aim of taking care of the children. Despite this, we have seen their need to hear the word of God and to receive food. As a church we have organized, coordinated by deaconess Yolanda, preparing food, and sharing it at the door of the church with the children, who are happy to receive the food along with brochures on biblical themes.



Children waiting For their food.



The children go away happy with what we share with love.

Sister Brígida and Yolanda preparing chili sauce and chicken for the children.



Salads for children



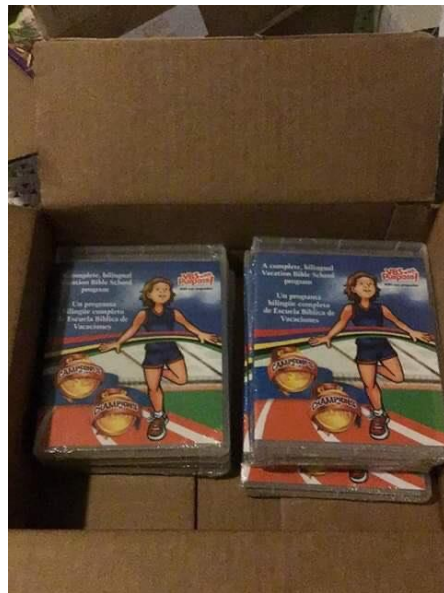
Vicar Neftalí helping deliver food.

Working with children is very important for our congregation, since there are many children in the area who spend much of the day alone because their parents work for a large part of the day in factories so that they have enough to satisfy their needs. Therefore, we look at an opportunity to be able to approach them and share the message of the love of Christ.

This year we hope that the situation will normalize to be able to carry out, as every year, the Vacation Bible School. As every year, we have already received the Biblical School material donated by KIMA and we are preparing the schools for the children.



Bible School Material
donated by KIMA



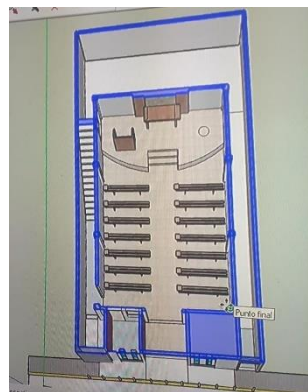
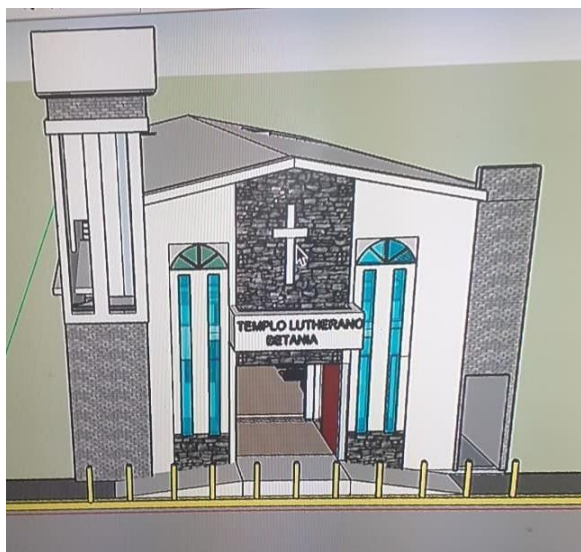
Images of past Bible schools.

Our desire and prayer when working with children is to teach them the Word of God so that they grow with it and it is God who guides them in their lives and they grow with His law and love, thus being good citizens and good Christians. All this following the command of our Lord Jesus Christ: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." (Matthew 28:19)



Project: Roof and Remodeling of the Temple

Our Temple, where we meet to receive the gifts of God, this year marks 21 years of its construction. As a congregation we have tried to maintain it, but over time it has been damaged, mainly the roof and the classrooms that are in the top back of the church. We have met as a congregation and have made a request for help to KIMA to be able to have our new roof that would be concrete (in this material it will last for many years). This remodeling will create new spaces that will serve the congregation greatly and to continue offering a place to the community where they can regularly hear the word of God.



Images of the project to be carried out.

As a church we have come together to talk about these projects and we have committed ourselves to work and give our best effort to manage and finish this project as soon as possible in order to meet the needs that arise in the congregation. For many years we have worked selling food dishes to raise funds.



Brothers selling some dishes



With the help of brothers, we have already started to work in the Temple.

Mission in Tampico, Tamaulipas

We have the project to start and plant a new congregation in the City of Tampico, Tamaulipas. Some members of our congregation have moved to this city (approximately 6 hours from Rio Bravo).

Previously, we took a trip to talk with the brothers and began the search for a place that would serve us for various activities. (classes with children, Bible studies, cults). For now, we have not found a place, but our brothers are searching. We also had the opportunity to meet other families which are very interested in attending.

We pray to God that when the pandemic contingency time ends, we can go and start this new mission.

Gratitude

I am grateful for all the support of Pastor Norman Finke and KIMA for the mission in Mexico, especially for the support at Betania and in the ministry that God has entrusted to me. We pray that God will allow us to continue bringing the word of God to all in need throughout the world, especially in our community and in our country.

May the God of mercy be with each of you.

Sincerely:
Pastor Isaac Gpe. García Castillo

